

Remarks

Claims 12-15 are pending. Claim 12 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 1. Claim 13 has been amended as to form. No new matter has been added.


The Examiner objects to the title as being non-descriptive. The title has been amended to address this objection.

The Examiner rejects claims 12-15 under 35 U.S.C. 112(2) as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicants regard as their invention. The Examiner asserts that the claims are incomplete because some process steps are missing. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 12 has been amended to recite a process that includes the steps of adding a well-defined composition to water and irrigating an area of soil with the water. The composition, which was originally defined by reference to claim 1, is now fully described within the confines of claim 12. Applicants submit that claim 12 and its dependent claims are complete and clear. Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw his 112 rejection of the pending claims.

Applicants submit that the instant application is now in condition for allowance. In the event that minor amendments will further prosecution, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Amended Claims with underlining and bracketing

12. (amended) soil treatment process comprising adding an aqueous soil treatment composition comprising:

- (a) an ionic water-soluble fertilizer in an amount of at least 10 weight percent, and
- (b) a water-soluble anionic polymer with has intrinsic viscosity of at least 6 dl/g and is formed from water-soluble monomer or monomer blend of which at least 40 weight percent is anionic monomer.

to water and irrigating an area of soil with the water ~~irrigating an area of soil with water to which has been added an aqueous soil treatment composition as defined in claim 1.~~

13. (amended) A process according to claim 12 in which the soil is irrigated ~~irrigation is by furrow irrigation, drip irrigation or spray irrigation.~~